

REMARKS

This is a simultaneous amendment for the U.S. National Stage application corresponding to PCT/EP 2003/007626.

Claims 24 to 47 have been added and claims 1 to 23 have been canceled. New claims 24 to 47 contain the same subject matter as canceled claims 1 to 23, but the new claims 24 to 47 have been drafted to comply with U.S. Patent Law and U.S. Patent Office Rules. The new claims have also been drafted to avoid confusing double usage of subscripts. Subscripts in the new claims only indicate the number of groups in the formula, generally attached to Si. In other words, instead of e.g. R₁, R₁ is used to designate a group other than R in claim 24.

Furthermore the original claims 1 to 23 were English translations of foreign claims and were “use” claims. Since “use” claims are not statutory in U.S. Patent Practice, they have been replaced by claims for the cosmetic agent, the pretreatment agent, claims for a method of improving a condition of hair and claims for an agent and method for simultaneously dyeing and conditioning hair.

New agent claims 24 to 36 correspond in their subject matter to canceled use claims 1 to 10, 12 and 16 respectively. New method-of-use claims 37 to 44 contain the same subject matter as canceled claims 11, 13 to 15 and 17 to 20. New claims 45 to 47 correspond to canceled claims 21 to 23.

The new claims 24 to 47 have been drafted to avoid multiple claim dependencies and an excessive number of claims.

The abstract has been amended to delete wording that is inappropriate in

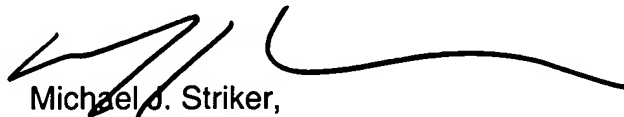
a U.S. Patent abstract and to include additional subject matter from the main cosmetic agent and method claims.

The specification has been amended to add standard section headings as recommended by the U.S. Patent Office Rules and to replace the references to the claims by number in the summary with appropriate subject matter from the claims, without repeating subject matter that occurs elsewhere in the specification. Some typographical and translation errors have also been corrected.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawing be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing the case to allowance, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 1-631-549 4700.

In view of the foregoing, favorable allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Striker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Striker,
Attorney for the Applicants

Reg. No. 27,233